Atty. Docket No.: 000449.00010

MOBILE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mobile communication apparatus is able to receive plural IC (e.g., USIM) cards and suitably control an operation of the apparatus using a selected one of the received IC cards. The mobile communication apparatus has plural sockets able to mount the plural USIM cards; the mounting of USIM cards in the sockets is detected. Activation of the USIM cards can be performed based upon this detection. After activation, position register information can be read from the activated USIM card(s) and location registry of the mobile communication apparatus with the network can be performed. Selection of an activated USIM card for establishing a communication link with the network may be carried out based upon various factors, including the time of use, a home location of the apparatus and information broadcast by a mobile network. As one advantage of the invention, it is possible to decrease call charges when the mobile communication apparatus is in a roaming country, if the mobile communication apparatus has a USIM card indicating a country code of the roaming country.

C:\NrPortbl\IMAN_WDC\BSAMUELS\438873 1.DOC